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Senate committee approves Borculo class' effort

LANSING — The Senate Committee on Government Operations on Tuesday approved the effort of a Borculo Christian School class to have the Senate say the Michigan Pledge, Sen. Wayne Kuipers, R-Holland, announced.

Kuipers sponsored Senate Resolution 202, which would have the Senate say the pledge. Pupils in Sally Doeblert's fourth-grade class asked the senator to push for the change. He met with the class Tuesday in Lansing as they watched the committee take up the bill. He has previously talked to the class about how government works. The Zeeland-area pupils start each day saying the pledges of allegiance to the U.S. and Michigan flags.

"I'm proud of the work Mrs. Doeblert's class has done to push this while learning so much about how the political process works," Kuipers said. "This helps us express the pride we feel about our Great Lakes state."

Michigan officially adopted the pledge with Public Act 165 of 1972. The act records the pledge was written by Harold G. Coburn.

The Michigan Pledge reads, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of Michigan, and to the state for which it stands, two beautiful peninsulas united by a bridge of steel, where equal opportunity and justice to all is our ideal."

A previous class of Doeblert's took part in the legislative process in 1997. The Zeeland-area class successfully pushed to make the white-tail deer the official state game mammal.

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Photos of this event will be available online at www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire